

AAUW Ballwin-Chesterfield Board Meeting

November 3, 2016

I. Call to Order

President Barbara McQuitty called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Attendees then recited the AAUW Mission Statement:

“AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.”

- A. Hostesses Susan Fenwick, Doris Nistler and Phyllis Oakes were thanked.
- B. Barb asked for any corrections or additions to the agenda. There were none.

II. Operational Reports

A. President's Announcements: Barbara McQuitty

- ER Walk: It was a gorgeous day for the Eleanor Roosevelt Walk. The event was well supported, and approximately \$1500 was raised.
- Upcoming Election: Be sure to vote! When women vote, we change the whole equation.
- Length of the Branch Business Meeting: The branch meeting has three parts: (1) mingling, which is important for establishing relationships; (2) a program that gets messages out about women and their priorities; (3) a business meeting. The business meeting is important, but speakers need to keep their remarks brief, as people complain if it's too long. Visitors, in particular, can be bored by it. It's good to hold these meetings to one hour or less. Everyone doesn't need to speak. Speakers are asked to line up at the side of the auditorium, so they can make their way efficiently to the podium.

B. Minutes

Barb asked whether there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the October 2016 board meeting. None was heard. A vote was taken and the minutes were APPROVED as posted.

C. Treasurer's Report: Rita Hawkins-Page

Rita reiterated that if she sends you a check, she would like you to cash it in the same month. The following balances were reported. Dollars for Scholars added \$1,928 this month, and now stands at \$6,345. The Schuck's total is \$2,369. Leadership is \$6,612; Operating, \$31,434; total assets: \$46,760.

III. AAUW Priorities

A. Public Policy: Pat Shores/Barbara Butchart

- **Barb: Be sure you know your rights when you go to vote. If you run into problems or observe something inappropriate, call 866-our-vote (866-687-8683).**
- **Not just driver's licenses, but other forms of ID can be used at the polls, e.g., a sample ballot barcode or a copy of your current utility bill. If the Missouri voter ID amendment is passed, it will cost the state \$17 million.**
- **There will be an election recap panel on Nov. 10 at 6:30 at the Richmond Heights Community Center. No reservations are required. If you wish to carpool from Trinity, let Pat Shores know. Additional drivers are needed.**
- **A "Save the Date" flier is ready to go for the January 10 Human Trafficking conference (attached to a hard copy of these minutes). Conference registration is available online, and a new flier will come out later. A signup sheet was passed around at the board meeting.**
- **Joyce Katz mentioned that the League of Women Voters website, lwv.org, can supply a ballot customized for your area. It also gives ratings on judges. You can mark your votes and then make a copy of the ballot to take with you to the polls.**
- **AAUW national has opened an online website where you can comment on proposed changes to AAUW bylaws and Public Policy, and give suggestions.**
- **In early April you will be getting your AAUW voter PIN for Public Policy programs 2017-2019. To vote online at the AAUW website, you must use your member number and a PIN number. The PIN will be e-mailed to members and mailed in the spring AAUW Outlook, along with a voter guide that includes the candidates for AAUW offices, bylaws proposals, Public Policy proposals and resolutions.**

- Barb asked whether everyone got the action alert about voting 'no' on amendments 3 and 6. Quite a few members responded that they had received it.
- Some people at branch meetings cannot hear well. Pat Shores supplied tips on using the microphone. Her advice was to hold it close to your mouth, and not use the stand. Also, before you go to the mic, take a deep breath and let it out slowly. This will help you to be heard when you begin to speak.

B. EOF: Marian Bauer/Vickie Jany

Vickie: The book sale brought in \$130 last month. Remember to bring your books.

November is Individual Giving Month for EOF. Envelopes will be on the chairs. Linda Roberson will help to collect envelopes, but two more collectors are needed. FYI: You can check your contributions to date online and donate online as well. The \$100 for the Century Club is calculated on a calendar year basis, not the AAUW fiscal year.

C. LAF: Doris Nistler/Julie Triplett

Doris: LAF is planning to have a fundraiser in June that is a games event. Carol Derington is trying to arrange lunch at Friendship Village, with games afterward.

Julie will speak at the branch meeting about a couple of cases occurring locally.

IV. Branch Priorities

A. Directory: Leslie Wier/Marilyn Beiter/Joyce Katz

70+ people still need to pick up their directories. Interest group leaders will be encouraged to pick these up for people in their groups or remind their group members to do so. Directories for this year and last year were sent to state historian. The deadline for changes that go into the supplement is Nov. 11.

B. Governance: Marsha Weppleman

Marsha looked into the mandatory updates to branch bylaws. Seven changes are required to address issues that affect suitability for the IRS. The first seven sections of the bylaws should be exactly the same for every affiliate. Our branch needed to take out several bylaws sections that Doris put in last year, following national's directions. Some terms have changed. For example, C/U partners must be called C/U members because 'partner' has a legal meaning. Also the date cited as the Missouri Statute revision date needed to be updated. Doris will proofread

the bylaws that Marsha has edited. These are due by the end of January. We can still call our branch a 'branch.' For legal purposes, we call it an 'affiliate.'

C. Dollars for Scholars: Janice Buckhold/Phyllis Oakes

- Janice commented that she attended the New Member Tea, and found the enthusiasm of the new members to be exciting. They have some ideas for Dollars for Scholars events.
- The committee has ideas for events that do not yet have sponsors, and the tickler file holds things that people have committed to sponsor but still are awaiting specific dates.
- Phyllis: Dollars for Scholars earnings to date amount to \$4,621. A huge thank you to everyone who has already sponsored an event. Regarding the book sale, everyone should bring at least one book. One bag would be even better!
- Waitlist question: Some members have asked whether Dollars for Scholars keeps a waitlist for events whose numbers are restricted. YES! In some cases, it may be possible to schedule a second session of an event, if interest is high.
- It was suggested that ticklers and event ideas be placed on the AAUW B-C website.
- Panera cards are all sold out.

D. Technology: Joyce Katz/Linda Roberson

Joyce shared instructions on use of the microphone, noting that speakers are addressing 100 people. It's like show business; they need to see you and hear you. We now have a portable mic for Q&A periods.

Be sure to check the AAUW B-C website occasionally to keep up to date. If you are a 'friend' on Facebook, it will alert you to new postings on the website.

E . Winter Auction, Jingle Mingle: Suzanne Couch/Karen Francis

- For the silent auction, people want services more than objects. On our website is a letter to give to a vendor that makes a donation. Suzanne needs a certificate that can go in a small basket, and she needs the donor's contact information so she can send them a letter for their taxes. The Expressions group is going to make up small baskets; some of these will contain gift certificates.

- Around thirty of the people who signed up to attend the auction have not paid. We have only twenty (20) tables, so to reserve a spot, they need to pay.
- The boutique may be held in a meeting room instead of the auditorium. Suzanne is working with Trinity on a deal to pay for the room.
- Doris will accept wine donations. Donors will get a ticket or token, good for a glass of wine. We need about twenty (20) bottles donated. A donation sign-up sheet was circulated at the board meeting. Any bottles of wine that are left over will be sold. The Jingle Mingle committee will work out when/how wine should be turned over by those donating it, and let us know.
- A Jingle Mingle committee meeting with department chairs was scheduled for right after the board meeting today.
- There are already ten (10) packages for the oral auction. The number desired is about twelve or thirteen. Fourteen (14) past presidents contributed to one of the oral auction items.
- Thank you to Suzanne and Karen for leading this!

V. Strategic Plan - Overview of Current Status

A. Planning Grid: Susan Fenwick

Susan went over the strategic plan report at the last meeting, and followed up by sending out a copy of the S.M.A.R.T. procedure for evaluating and refining goals. Nobody is required to do any further work on their action steps right now, but this tool might be useful to committees moving forward.

B. Future Process: Karen Francis

- Consider inclusion goals, an AAUW priority. Think about your goals as you carry out the action steps for your committee. It shouldn't be a big job; just keep them in mind.
- Our strategic plan was shared with the AAUWMO board, and they were very favorably impressed.

VI. New Business

- Suzanne Couch, Vickie Jany, and Carol Derington are going to serve on the Nominating Committee.

- The Barbara Lackritz award is coming up, and our branch will submit a candidate. Our reader will be Susan Fenwick. We need a writer for the submission.
- IBC Spring Fling: The Ferguson-Florissant branch will make the arrangements for Spring Fling. It will be held at Glen Echo Country Club in Normandy, a beautiful facility, on March 25, 2017. AAUW B-C is responsible for the program.
- A women's legislative retreat will be held in Columbia, MO, on January 14, 2017. Contacts are Shirley Breeze, Pat Shores and Karen Francis.
- Julie Triplett would like us to regularly announce state and regional meetings and encourage people to attend.
- International Relations meetings start in January. Unfortunately, the first one, on January 10, conflicts with an AAUW grant meeting in St. Charles.
- Yvonne Morrison wanted to know how many people are planning to go to Washington D.C. for the national AAUW convention. It appears that five (5) AAUW B-C members are planning to attend, currently.
- Julie Triplett asked whether we are going to take a look at how our branch does fundraising, and was told that the Finance Committee will meet on Jan. 9 at 9:30 at Schnuck's on Woods Mill.
- A new Finance Committee is being formed. All AAUW B-C committees responsible for fundraising must be represented at the meeting. Barb McQuitty asked who would like to be on the Finance Committee but hasn't heard they are on it. On the original committee there was a representative from Dollars for Scholars. Julie Triplett was asked if she can supply a list of people who participated in committee two years ago. Barb is going to get back to us regarding who is on the new committee.
- Doris Nistler pointed out that national is changing their fundraising arrangements. They are not telling the branches how to do fundraising or how to spend their money.
- Leslie Wier was asked by a member if people who are not paying members are published in the directory. That member pointed out someone listed as an example. In this connection, Leslie remarked that there still are difficulties bringing together all of the pieces needed to get the list of members compiled. Directory keeps getting pieces of information right up

to the very last minute. It gets frustrating, and would be easier if every part that contributes to it used the same procedures. National doesn't give the branch a final list until November. A suggestion to consider was made, that maybe the directory could be published a little later.

- The Convention Committee also will be reconvened to see who AAUW B-C is going to fund to attend AAUWMO and national conventions. Early bird registration ends in January. Karen and Barb will talk about getting this meeting going.
- It is the responsibility of Programs to contact Morris to tell him how many tables and what setup arrangements we need for the branch meeting. There is a default arrangement, but Programs can ask for extras. Suzanne has a copy of the standard setup, and she can send it to Programs.

VII. Adjournment

Barb McQuitty adjourned the meeting at 10:55 a.m.

**Susan Fenwick
Secretary/Archivist**